REMARKS

The original Sequence Listing in the above-captioned patent application was filed on May 18, 1998, in response to the first Notice to comply with requirements for patent applications containing nucleotide sequence and/or amino acids sequence disclosures. This communication is in response to the second Notice to comply, dated 2 March 2001, and a Communication from the Examiner dated 30 July 2001 where the Examiner has asked the Applicants to submit a sequence listing for the amino acid sequences recited in claims 9, 31, 41 and 54 which is allegedly required by the pre July 1998 rules.

However, we would like to reiterate the fact that the amino acids presented in the claims are not amino acid sequences as defined by 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. They are listings of alternative, specific residues that are defined at a particular position for the designated motif. This is clarified in the Preliminary Amendment, filed 30 June 1999, where the referenced amino acid residues are separated by commas.

We have identified no pre May 1998 rule which requires that a sequence be submitted where no sequence is set forth in the specification or claims. We have placed a telephone message with Mr. Robert Wax at (703) 308-4216 to clarify whether a sequence listing is required for the subject matter set forth in claims 9, 31 and 54 under the pre July 1998 rules. If the Examiner is aware of a particular pre July 1998 rule requiring the submission of a sequence listing for the subject matter set forth in claims 9, 31, 41, and 54, it is respectfully requested that the rule be disclosed.

Due to a forementioned reason, it is not believed that a Sequence Listing is required for the above-captioned patent application.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this response and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to

charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this sequence listing to our <u>Deposit Account No. 03-1952</u>. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

September 4, 2001

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